

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 were pending in this application prior to this amendment.

Claims 3-9 and 11-12 were allowed.

Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected.

It is noted that the Office Action dated October 5, 2005 indicates that it is responsive to the amendment filed April 15, 2005. Applicant received an Office Action dated June 15, 2005 and filed a response to it on July 13, 2005. If the Office Action dated October 5, 2005 did not take into account applicant's response filed July 13, 2005, applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the response filed July 13, 2005.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

In the Office Action dated October 5, 2005, claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Ma et al. (US Patent No. 5,953,338). It is applicant's position that the rejection of claims 1-2 is improper. Applicant feels that the Ma et al. reference does not teach or suggest the invention recited in claims 1 and 2. The basis for applicant's position is as set out in the Amendment filed July 13, 2005. These arguments are incorporated into this response by reference.

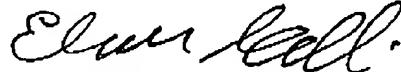
CONCLUSION

Claims 3-9 and 11-12 have been allowed.

A Notice of Appeal is being filed herewith with respect to claims 1-2.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.



Elmer W. Galbi
Reg. No. 19,761

MARGER JOHNSON & McCOLLOM, P.C.
210 SW Morrison Street, Suite 400
Portland, OR 97204
503-222-3613
Customer No. 20575

Docket No. 1705-002

Page 6 of 6

Application No. 09/527,968